UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

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GENERAL

S/PRST/1997/29
27 May 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

At the 3781st meeting of the Security Council, held on 27 May 1997 in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in Sierra Leone", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council is deeply concerned about the military coup d'état in Sierra Leone, especially when the United Nations is assisting the process of reconciliation in that country. It strongly deplores this attempt to overthrow the democratically elected government and calls for an immediate restoration of constitutional order. The Council takes note of the communiqué of the Central Organ of the Organization of African Unity Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution of 26 May 1997, and underlines the imperative necessity of implementing the Abidjan Agreement which continues to serve as a viable framework for peace, stability and reconciliation in Sierra Leone.

"The Security Council strongly condemns the violence which has been inflicted on both local and expatriate communities, in particular United Nations and other international personnel serving in the country. It recalls the obligations of all concerned to ensure the protection of United Nations and other international personnel in the country, and calls for an end to the looting of premises and equipment belonging to the United Nations and international aid agencies."

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UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

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S/PRST/1997/30
28 May 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

At the 3782nd meeting of the Security Council, held on 28 May 1997 in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"In accordance with the resolution just adopted on the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force, I have been authorized to make the following complementary statement on behalf of the Security Council:

'As is known, the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (S/1997/372) states, in paragraph 13: "Despite the present quiet in the Israel-Syria sector, the situation in the Middle East continues to be potentially dangerous and is likely to remain so, unless and until a comprehensive settlement covering all aspects of the Middle East problem can be reached." That statement of the Secretary-General reflects the view of the Security Council.'"

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UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

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S/PRST/1997/31
29 May 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

At the 3784th meeting of the Security Council, held on 29 May 1997 in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council expresses its support for the people of the Democratic Republic of the Congo as they begin a new period in their history. The Council respects the legitimate national aspirations of the people of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to achieve peace, national reconciliation and progress in the political, economic and social fields to the benefit of all, and opposes any interference in its internal affairs.

"The Security Council recalls its resolution 1097 (1997) of 18 February 1997 which endorses the United Nations five-point peace plan.

"The Security Council welcomes the end of the fighting and expresses its satisfaction that stability has begun to return to the country.

"The Security Council reaffirms the national sovereignty and the territorial integrity of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and calls for the withdrawal of all external forces, including mercenaries.

"The Security Council, in accordance with the United Nations five-point peace plan, calls for the rapid and peaceful settlement of the crisis through dialogue and the convening of an international conference on peace, security and development in the Great Lakes region. The Council also reaffirms the statement of its President of 30 April 1997 (S/PRST/1997/24) calling for rapid agreement on peaceful transitional arrangements leading to the holding of democratic and free elections with the participation of all parties.

"The Security Council believes that the convening of an international conference on peace, security and development in the Great Lakes region under the auspices of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity will be essential in promoting regional peace and stability.

"The Security Council, in accordance with the United Nations five-point peace plan, calls for protection and security for all refugees and displaced persons and facilitation of access to humanitarian assistance. It reiterates its call for full respect for the rights of refugees and displaced persons, and for access and safety for humanitarian relief workers. It also reiterates in the strongest terms its call for complete cooperation with the United Nations mission investigating reports of massacres, other atrocities and violations of international humanitarian law in the country, including to provide it full and immediate access and to ensure its security. It is particularly concerned by reports that refugees in the east of the country are being systematically killed. It calls for an immediate end to the violence against refugees in the country.

"The Security Council expresses its deep appreciation to the Secretaries-General of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity and their Special Representative, to the Government of South Africa, and to all those inside and outside the region for their efforts to facilitate a peaceful solution to the crisis in the Democratic Republic of the Congo."

UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

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S/PRST/1997/32
30 May 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

At the 3785th meeting of the Security Council, held on 30 May 1997 in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in Burundi", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council is concerned that, despite recent positive developments, there is continuing instability in Burundi. It recalls its resolution 1072 (1996) of 30 August 1996, in which, inter alia, it demanded that all sides in Burundi declare a unilateral cessation of hostilities and initiate unconditional negotiations with a view to reaching a comprehensive political settlement.

"The Security Council reiterates its support for the efforts of the regional leaders and takes note of the Joint Communiqué (S/1997/319) of 16 April 1997 issued following the Fourth Arusha Regional Summit on the Burundi Conflict held in Arusha, Tanzania. In particular, the Council welcomes the decision of the regional leaders to ease sanctions in order to alleviate the suffering of the people of Burundi.

"The Security Council welcomes the fact that talks are being held in Rome which are complementary to the Arusha process. It also welcomes the commitment of the Government of Burundi to the comprehensive political dialogue among all the parties within the framework of the Arusha process. It urges all the parties in Burundi to continue to pursue a negotiated settlement and to refrain from actions which are detrimental to such dialogue.

"The Security Council expresses its deep concern at the involuntary resettlement of rural populations and calls upon the Government of Burundi to allow the people to return to their homes without any hindrance.

"The Security Council expresses its support and appreciation to former President Nyerere as well as to the Special Representative of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity in their efforts to find a peaceful solution to the crisis in Burundi.

"The Security Council requests the Secretary-General to continue to keep the Council informed on the situation in Burundi, especially with regard to the progress of a negotiated and peaceful settlement in the country.

"The Security Council will remain seized of the matter."

UNITED NATIONS

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Security Council

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S/PRST/1997/33
13 June 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

At the 3789th meeting of the Security Council, held on 13 June 1997 in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation between Iraq and Kuwait", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council takes note of the letters from the Executive Chairman of the Special Commission dated 9 and 11 June 1997 (S/1997/455 and S/1997/458), **the letter from the Deputy Prime Minister of Iraq dated 5 June 1997 (S/1997/456) and the letter from the Under-Secretary of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Iraq dated 6 June 1997 (S/1997/457).** The **Council** expresses serious concern at the four incidents on 4, 5 and 7 June 1997 in which Iraqi personnel unacceptably interfered with helicopter flights operating in support of inspection of sites designated by the Special Commission under Security Council resolutions 687 (1991), 707 (1991) and 715 (1991), endangering the helicopters and their crews, as well as persons on the ground.

"The Security Council deplores these incidents and underlines that Iraq must immediately take effective steps to put an end to all such actions. The **Council** reminds Iraq of its obligations under the relevant resolutions of the Council, in particular resolution 1060 (1996). The **Council** affirms that Iraq is obliged to ensure the security of the personnel of the Special Commission and to permit the Commission to carry out its air operations anywhere in Iraq without interference of any kind in accordance with pertinent provisions of resolution 707 (1991). The **Council** recalls the commitments contained in the joint statement of the Special Commission and Iraq of 22 June 1996.

"The Security Council reiterates its continuing support to the Special Commission in its efforts to ensure the implementation of its mandate under the relevant resolutions of the **Council**."

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UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

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S/PRST/1997/33*
18 June 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

At the 3789th meeting of the Security Council, held on 13 June 1997 in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation between Iraq and Kuwait", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council takes note of the letters from the Executive Chairman of the Special Commission dated 9 and 11 June 1997 (S/1997/455 and S/1997/458), the letter from the Deputy Prime Minister of Iraq dated 5 June 1997 (S/1997/456) and the letter from the Under-Secretary of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Iraq dated 6 June 1997 (S/1997/457). The Council expresses serious concern at the four incidents on 4, 5 and 7 June 1997 in which Iraqi personnel unacceptably interfered with helicopter flights operating in support of inspection of sites designated by the Special Commission under Security Council resolutions 687 (1991), 707 (1991) and 715 (1991), endangering the helicopters and their crews, as well as persons on the ground.

"The Security Council deplores these incidents and underlines that Iraq must immediately take effective steps to put an end to all such actions. The Council reminds Iraq of its obligations under the relevant resolutions of the Council, in particular resolution 1060 (1996). The Council affirms that Iraq is obliged to ensure the security of the personnel of the Special Commission and to permit the Commission to carry out its air operations anywhere in Iraq without interference of any kind in accordance with pertinent provisions of resolution 707 (1991). The Council recalls the commitments contained in the joint statement of the Special Commission and Iraq of 22 June 1996.

"The Security Council reiterates its continuing support to the Special Commission in its efforts to ensure the implementation of its mandate under the relevant resolutions of the Council."

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UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

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S/PRST/1997/34
19 June 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

At the 3790th meeting of the Security Council, held on 19 June 1997 in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "Protection for humanitarian assistance to refugees and others in conflict situations", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council has considered the matter of protection for humanitarian assistance to refugees and others in conflict situations and has given careful consideration to the views expressed in the debate on the matter at its 3778th meeting on 21 May 1997.

"The Security Council notes that massive displacement of civilian populations in conflict situations may pose a serious challenge to international peace and security. The Council, in seeking protection for humanitarian assistance to refugees and others in conflict situations, underlines the importance of pursuing a coordinated and comprehensive approach in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

"The Security Council expresses its grave concern at the recent increase in attacks or use of force in conflict situations against refugees and other civilians, in violation of the relevant rules of international law, including those of international humanitarian law. The Council reiterates its condemnation of such acts and once again calls upon all those concerned to comply strictly with the relevant rules of international law. In particular, it calls upon all parties concerned to ensure the safety of refugees, displaced persons and other civilians, and guarantee the unimpeded and safe access of United Nations and other humanitarian personnel to those in need.

"The Security Council also expresses its grave concern at all attacks or use of force against United Nations and other personnel associated with United Nations operations as well as personnel of humanitarian organizations, in violation of the relevant rules of international law, including those of international humanitarian law. In this context, the Council recalls its resolution 868 (1993) and the statement by its

President of 12 March 1997 (S/PRST/1997/13). It also recalls the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel adopted by the General Assembly on 9 December 1994. In this context, it calls upon all parties concerned to ensure the safety and security of these personnel as well as personnel of humanitarian organizations, and encourages all States to consider ways and means to strengthen the protection of such personnel.

"The Security Council reminds all States and others concerned of the need to bring to justice those who violate international humanitarian law. In this context, it recalls the resolution on the establishment of an international criminal court adopted by the General Assembly on 17 December 1996 (A/RES/51/207).

"The Security Council supports further exploration of ways and means by which the international community may enhance the compliance by parties concerned with the relevant rules of international law, including those of international humanitarian law.

"The Security Council encourages States to consider acceding to the relevant international conventions designed to address the problems of refugees.

"The Security Council underlines the importance of ensuring clear, appropriate and realistic mandates to be implemented in an impartial manner as well as adequate resources for United Nations peacekeeping operations. In this context, the Council, in establishing or authorizing an operation to protect humanitarian assistance to refugees and others in conflict situations, reaffirms the principles of full respect for the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of the States concerned. The Council also underlines the importance of ensuring the proper discharge of the mandates conferred upon peacekeeping operations.

"The Security Council stresses the importance of ensuring closer coordination between the relevant United Nations bodies and other international agencies, acting in accordance with their own mandates and status, with a view to effectively providing or protecting humanitarian assistance to those in need. In this context, the Council encourages an enhanced role for the Special Representatives of the Secretary-General in coordination to this end.

"The Security Council stresses the importance of the activities of the relevant United Nations bodies, agencies and other international humanitarian organizations and the need for these activities to continue to be carried out in accordance with the principles of humanity, neutrality and impartiality of humanitarian assistance.

"The Security Council also stresses the importance of crisis prevention, including by addressing the root causes of such crises. It therefore encourages the Secretary-General and all States to look further into practical ways to enhance the United Nations capacity and capability in this regard.

"The Security Council encourages the Secretary-General to study further how to improve the protection for humanitarian assistance to refugees and others in conflict situations."